

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01 AID-20 SS-15 HEW-08 L-03

RSR-01 /131 W

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R 200800Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4762

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6165

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, AF

SUBJECT: UN AFGHAN NARCOTICS PRORGRM

1. DAVIS, UN NARCOTICS COORDINATOR IN KABUL, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR MORNING OF AUGUST 16. HE REPORTED THAT OSMAN OF UNFDAC HAD BEEN SEEING PRESIDENT DAUD REGULARLY AND AS RESULT MEETING WITH DAUD EVENING AUGUST 15 GOA NOW RPT NOW PLANS FOR GENEVA MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF UNGA EXPECTED TO BE JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1974. DAUD REPORTS THAT SAMAD GHAUS, GOA MFA DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY BE HEADING DELEGATION TO UNGA AND THEN GO ON TO GENEVA. IN INTERIM IT IS EXPECTED THAT UN GENEVA WILL BE WORKING WITH POTENTIAL DONORS IN ORDER TO ASSURE THEIR FORTHCOMINGNESS. OSMAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, HOWEVER, REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT DAUD FULLY AWARE THAT AFGHANS THEMSELVES HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORKING WITH POTENTIAL DONORS IN THIS RESPECT.

2. OSMAN STATES, ACCORDING DAVIS, THAT GOA INSISTING THAT UN PREPARATORY AGREEMENT BE SIGNED NOW RPT NOW. DAVIS IS SEEKING DELAY IN THIS ACTION DESPITE UN POSITION WITH PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT OF MUSA SHAFIQ OF URGING EARLY SIGNING PREPARATORY
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AGREEMENT. IT DAVIS' JUDGMENT THAT SIGNING BE DELAYED BASED

UPON HIS BELIEF THAT POLITICAL SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN IS UNSTABLE AND THAT FUTURE OF DAUD MAY NOT BE AS FIRM AS MANY BELIEVE. DAVIS IS WELL AWARE OF PERSISTENT RUMORS OF STRUGGLE WITHIN LEADERSHIP GROUP, IN WHICH HE CERTAIN THAT DAUD WILL COME OUT ON TOP. ACCORDING OSMAN, DAUD'S "ASKING PRICE" FOR GOA ADHERENCE PREPARATORY AGREEMENT WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING USG INPUT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RELATIVE TO NARCOTICS SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$450 MILLION RPT \$450 MILLION. ACCORDING OSMAN, THIS FIGURE ARRIVED AT BECAUSE GOA BELIEVES THIS IS AMOUNT WHICH USG PROVIDING TURKEY FOR GOT'S ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM. OSLAN ALSO REPORTS THAT DAUD VERY PLEASE THAT "SENATOR PERCY HAS PROMISED THAT USG WOULD BUILD ROAD IN BADAKSHAN". (COMMENT: IT CLEAR FROM REPORT OF SENATOR PERCY CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT DAUD WHICH CLEARED BY SENATOR PERCY THAT SUBJECT OF ROAD IN BADAKSHAN NEVER RPT NEVER RAISED DURING CONVERSATION.)

3. DAVIS REPORTED THAT IN LINE WITH SUGGESTION BY U.S. MISSION OFFICER, GENEVA, GOUGH, THAT WHEN PREPARATORY AGREEMENT SIGNED BY UN AND GOA AND UN BEGINS IMPLEMENT THAT AS IN EARNEST BY GOA, THE GOA SHOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO MOVE AGAINST POPPY PRODUCTION IN HELMAND VALLEY, INCLUDING USAID PROJECT AREA. (COMMENT: WE AGREE THAT THIS IS REASONABLE APPROACH, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF DEEP CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC CONCERN IN US REGARDING REPORTS OF POPPY PRODUCTION THIS AREA OF AFGHANISTAN WHERE USG HAS MAJOR LAND RECLAMATION AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.) THIS PROPOSAL WAS CARRIED BY OSMAN TO PRESIDENT DAUD WHO HAS RESPONDED THROUGH OSMAN THAT GOA PREPARED TO BEND EVERY EFFORT AND COOPERATE COMPLETELY WITH ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTS ON ENFORCEMENT WITH REGARD TO NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, BUT THAT GOA ACTION TO ELIMINATE POPPY PRODUCTION IN HELMAND VALLEY "POLITICAL BOMBSHELL" SINCE MUCH OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR DAUD COMES FROM HELMAND AREA AND HE CANNOT AFFORD TO ALIENATE POPPY GROWERS IN THAT REGION. DAUD FURTHERMORE REPORTED THROUGH OSMAN THAT HE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT MILITARY OR POLICE MANPOWER TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ENFORCEMENT OF BAN ON POPPY PRODUCTION IN HELMAND. (COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT IS OSMAN IS REPORTING ACCURATELY THAT OPPOSITE MAY BE THE CASE; THAT IS, DAUD'S SUPPORT IN POLITICALLY POTENT KANDAHAR-HELMAND REGION IS WEAK AND HE FOR

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THAT REASON DOES NOT WISH JEOPARDIZE WHATEVER LIMITED SUPPORT MAY BE AVAILABLE.)

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE FOREGOING VIEWS CONVEYED BY OSMAN REFLECT DAUD'S CLASSIC BARGAINING POSITION. HE MAY BE GROUNDING HIS TACTICS IN THOSE OF 1950'S AND 60'S WHEREBY HE SUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT INCREASED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM US AND USSR BY SUCH TACTICS. WE CONVINCED THAT EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO MOVE

AHEAD WITH COMPREHENSIVE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM EXPRESSED
BY DAUD TO AMBASSADOR NEUMANN TWICE, ONCE IN PRESENCE OF
SENATOR PERCY, AND RAPID WILLINGNESS NEW DEPUTY MINISTER
FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAHID ABDULLAH MEET WITH DEA KABUL AGENT AND
EXPRESS WILLINGNESS FULL COOPERATION ON ENFORCEMENT IS TRUE
POSITION GOA. WE AGREE WITH DAIV' JUDGMENT DAUD REGIME STILL
UNSTABLE AND POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONTINUES
UNABATED. WE FURTHERMORE AGREE WITH DAVIS' JUDGMENT THAT
PREPARATORY AGREEMENT SIGNING BE DELAYED IN ORDER TO JUDGE
JUST HOW STABLE POLITICAL SITUATION WILL BE AND THAT IN
INTERIM MOVING TOWARDS UN MEETINGS IN EARLY '74 WILL GIVE
ALL HANDS OPPORTUNITY PRESS FOR CLEARER POSITIONS WITH REGARD
TO PLEDGES FOR SUPPORT. IN LIGHT OF THIS RESPONSE TO STATE
160296 CALLING FOR BUDGETARY INPUTS FOR FISCAL '74 AND FISCAL
'75 WILL HAVE TO BE MODIFIED. WE SUGGEST THAT ALL OF FORE-
GOING BE TREATED WITH GREAT CARE POINTING OUT ANY QUESTIONS
ARISING THEREFROM THAT IT MISSION'S JUDGMENT ALL OF THIS IS
PRIMARILY BARGAINING BY DAUD AND THAT TRUE DIMENSIONS OF
PROGRAM WILL ONLY EMERGE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF MEETINGS ON
DIFFERENT LEVELS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL06165
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS NEUMANN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730828/aaaaauho.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN AFGHAN NARCOTICS PRORGRM
TAGS: SNAR, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005